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RESPONSE UNDER 37C.F.R. §1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURES REQUESTED  
EXAMINING GROUP 1771  
PATENT

PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 03327.2259-00  
Express Mail Label No. EV 326660216US

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
Akihiro HIKICHI et al. )  
Application No.: 09/901,722 ) Group Art Unit: 1771  
Filed: July 11, 2001 ) Examiner: N.L. Torres-Velazquez  
For: NON-ASBESTOS FRICTION MATERIAL ) Confirmation No.: 7732  
 ) Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

This Reply is filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed July 7, 2005, the period for response having been extended by a request for extension of one (1) month and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, prompt and favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the amendments and remarks below is respectfully requested.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper and begin one page 2.

**Arguments/Remarks** follow the amendment sections of this paper.